(c) Total 9 offers for South-I area and 8 offers for South-II area were received.

(d) As the earlier contract had expired, open tenders were floated to approve fresh contractors to deliver the bills to the customers' premises. Anticipating delay, due to certain procedural and administrative reasons in the finalisation of open tenders, limited tenders were invited for the delivery of bills for a period of 1 to 3 months pending finalisation of open tender. The limited tender call, however, has not been finalised and at present the bills are being delivered by post.

Ranchi-Patna-Mumbai Air Service

5554. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ranchi-Patna-Mumbai air services have been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to reintroduce the air service on the above route ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) Due to shortage of pilots, Indian Airlines had withdrawn their twice weekly service on sector Mumbai-Patna-Ranchi-Mumbai from December, 1992.

(c) Sahara India Airlines and Indian Airlines are operating to these places as per details given below :

Indian Airlines	**Frequency/Week**
Mumbai-Varanasi-Lucknow-Mumbai	3
Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna-Calcutta	2
Delhi-Patna-Ranchi-Delhi	7
Delhi-Lucknow-Patna-Calcutta and return	3
Sahara India Airlines	
Mumbai-Ranchi-Patna-Delhi	3
Delhi-Ranchi-Patna-Mumbai	2
Delhi-Patna-Ranchi-Mumbai	1
Delhi-Ranchi-Patna-Delhi	3

Doordarshan Projects in Andhra Pradesh

5555. SHRI B. DHARMA BIKSHAM :
SHRI K.S. RAYADU :
SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of TV transmitters in Andhra Pradesh, location-wise;

(b) the number of Districts covered under the TV transmitter;

(c) whether representations have been received for setting up of TV transmitters in the State, location-wise;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to install TV relay centre in Narsapuram so that programmes could be clear in East and West Godavari; and

(f) the time by which these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Sixty one TV Transmitters of varying powers are, at present, functioning in the State of Andhra Pradesh. The location-wise details of the TV Transmitters are given in the Statement.

(b) All the twenty three districts in Andhra Pradesh are, either wholly or partially, covered by the TV Transmitters functioning in the State.

(c) and (d) Representations are received from various quarters including the representatives of the people, from time to time, for expansion of TV service in hitherto uncovered/partly covered parts of the country including Andhra Pradesh. Doordarshan in its endeavour to augment TV service throughout the country considers these representation depending on various factors such as extent of resultant coverage; service to hilly, back-ward, tribal, remote, sensitive and border areas and availability of basic infrastructural facilities.

(e) and (f) There is no approved scheme, at present, to set up a TV Transmitter at Narsapuram in Andhra Pradesh. The West Godavari District which lies in the coverage zone of the High Power TV Transmitter (HPT) functioning at Vijayawada, is expected to receive TV service from the said Transmitter subject to local terrain conditions. As regards the East Godavari District, it is expected to receive TV service from the HPT presently under implementation at Rajamundry subject to local terrain conditions, when commissioned into service. The installation work of HPT at Rajamundry is expected to be completed during 1997-98.

STATEMENT

LIST SHOWING THE EXISTING TV TRANSMITTERS IN THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH

HPTs

Anantapur
Hyderabad
Nandyal